San Diego. The Japanese are the men employed as divers. In 1900 the diving armor with air pumps came into use. Before that the product from the Los Angeles county abalone fishery was in one year, 1899, "60,000 pounds of dried abalones and 30,000 pounds of shells of $7,800 value."[1]

It is said that the Chinese and Japanese are the consumers of this white, boneless mollusk (the foot of the animal is the part used, and this is white, no matter what the color of the shell may be); but I have known of persons eating this shell-fish—not previously dried as prepared for shipping—perfectly unconscious that the name given to the soup, or fritters, masked the real one. Cans of daintily prepared abalones, with another name, are among grocery supplies and the contents of a can with butter, milk, salt and pepper, all heated in a chafing-dish, is odorous and tender enough to please the palate of any fish consumer.

Hollywood, Los Angeles, Cal., November 9, 1906.

NEW PISIDIA.

BY V. STERKI.

Pis. neglectum, n. sp. Mussel of small size, slightly to scarcely oblique, rather rounded in outlines, moderately to rather well inflated; superior margin slightly curved or nearly straight, with more or less marked angles where passing into the anterior and posterior, supero-anterior slope generally marked, slightly curved, anterior end rounded angular, posterior part subtruncate, inferior margin moderately curved; beaks slightly posterior, rather narrow, rounded or somewhat flattened on top, moderately projecting over the superior margin; surface with fine, subregular to irregular, crowded, concentric striæ, microscopically rugulose, dullish or somewhat shining; over the beaks there are much finer concentric striæ to the center, and the surface is not rugulose, more shining; color light to yellowish horn to whitish, shell translucent to rather opaque, rather thin; hinge rather slight, well formed, plate comparatively broad; right cardinal tooth rather short, strongly curved, not reaching the lower

---

[1] Ann. Rept. Fish Commission, 1901.

edge of the plate, its posterior end much thicker, deeply grooved or bifid; there is an impressed groove between it and the edge of the plate; left anterior strongly curved to sharply angular and bent upward, the posterior oblique, curved; "lateral teeth" moderately stout, the outer ones of the right valve distinct, the anterior left cusp pointed, abrupt, the surfaces of all cusps rugulose; ligament rather strong.

Long. 3, alt. 2.6, diam. 1.8 m., types, and average.

Soft parts not examined.

Habitat: North America; widely distributed and common in Ohio, Michigan and Illinois, and probably over the Nearctic province, seen also from New York, Canada and Alabama; living in all kinds of waters. The specimens regarded as types are from a brook at Krumroy, Summit Co., Ohio, 1900 (No. 3265, collection of Cycladidæ).

This *Pisidium* was regarded as probably distinct years ago; since then the material has been looked over and compared dozens of times. It seems to be the central form of a group which is one of the most difficult to deal with of all our *Pisidia*. There are a host of forms ranging under it or near it, really or apparently, and if only a few specimens from various places were on hand, they might well be regarded as distinct. But among the thousands seen, there are more or less plainly intermediate forms. Some are still under doubt and scrutiny, and waiting for additional material in order to ascertain their true positions. Some forms have a slight resemblance to some small forms of the polymorphous "*abditum* Hald.," others to small forms of *noveboracense* Pr. It may also be said that the more typical specimens resemble *Pis. pusillum* Gmel. more than any other of our *Pisidia* does.

Var. (?) *corpulentum* n. Larger, more inflated, somewhat more elongate and oblique, beaks generally somewhat more posterior, large, prominent; concentric striæ coarser, surface more dull, color whitish to yellowish, to grayish, and even bluish with lighter zones along the margins.

Hab.: Grand River, Grand Rapids, Mich., collected repeatedly by Dr. R. J. Kirkland in good numbers; a similar *Pisidium* is from Sillycash creek, near Joliet, Ill., collected by Messrs. J. H. Ferriss and J. H. Handwerk. It seems that these forms are connected with *Pis. neglectum*, although the Grand River, Mich. form, is considerably different and appears to be distinct.

Pis. trapezoideum St. (described in the NAUTILUS, IX, p. 124, 1896), from the middle Atlantic States, and probably the same from Grand Rapids, Michigan, is very different from *neglectum*, yet there may be intermediate forms connecting the two. Should that prove true, *trapezoideum* would probably better be regarded as a specially differentiated form, a variety of *neglectum*, and not vice versa. Priority cannot be considered if there are better reasons for a different point of view.

THE BROOKLYN CONCHOLOGICAL CLUB.

To the Nautilus:

The Brooklyn Conchological Club was formed over two years ago by a number of collectors and admirers of shells. Several of the members have extensive and valuable collections, the product of many years of careful selection and world-wide correspondence with collectors. THE NAUTILUS is a welcome visitor at the club. Two of our members' names are found on its advertising pages, and occasionally an article appears from the pen of our esteemed friend and conchologist, Mr. Sloman Rous. We hope to hear of similar clubs in other cities, and from individual collectors.

At the October meeting of the Brooklyn Conchological Club, Mr. Maxwell Smith exhibited specimens of the shells collected by him last summer in Otsego County, N. Y., also a map of the stations visited. Mr. Smith gave an interesting account of his experience in collecting. A list of the shells exhibited includes 54 species.

SILAS C. WHEAT.

SHELLS OF RICHFIELD SPRINGS, NEW YORK AND VICINITY.

BY MAXWELL SMITH.

The following species were all found in Otsego Co., with the exception of those from Weaver and Young's Lakes (Little Lakes), Herkimer Co. The collection was made in July and August, 1906. It is interesting to note that *Lymnæa gracilis* Jay was reported from Canadarago Lake previous to 1870 by a number of authors. I hunted diligently for this species but did not find it. From Allan